

## **Save the Children**

### **Terms of Reference**

**Consultancy Role: Conduct an End of Project evaluation of the Links for Children (LFC) project**

### **Introduction**

The Links for Children OVC Project is a five-Year USAID/PEPFAR funded project, 2009-2014 managed by Save the Children, and implemented in partnership with seven indigenous civil society organizations (CSOs). The overall goal of the project is to expand access to care and support for children infected and affected by HIV and AIDS using a proven community-based approach, while building the capacity of indigenous organizations to enable children and families to continue accessing such services in an effective and sustainable manner.

### **Purpose of Consultancy**

The end of project evaluation will evaluate the impact, effectiveness, relevance and sustainability of the LFC programme implemented by Save the Children in Bauchi, Kaduna and Katsina States.

### **Objectives of the evaluation**

- To assess progress towards achievement of programme targets against the baseline data and the midterm evaluation.
- To assess the effectiveness of the programme the approach and interventions.
- To document the outcomes and impact of the programme on the quality of life of the targeted beneficiaries of the project: children, families, and communities; including significant changes, positive and unintended impact of the programme whilst documenting all the underlying measures to promote or mitigate these programme impacts.
- To assess sustainability at the government and community level and the interplay of stakeholder involvement at state and LGA levels
- To assess the relevance of the programme
- To document success stories and lessons learnt
- To specifically conduct a VS&L stand-alone study
- To specifically conduct a CPC stand-alone study

**Specific Tasks:**

The evaluation team will be responsible to conduct the research and gather/analyze the data and deliver the final evaluation report. Data will be collected using primary and secondary sources, and will include both quantitative and qualitative measures.

Methods and procedures may likely include:

1. Review of relevant documents
2. Qualitative research (Focus Group Discussion and In-depth Interviews) with both direct beneficiaries and key informants, such as community leaders, government personnel, school personnel, and local partners, etc.
3. Quantitative research using secondary program data
4. Site visits to communities, meetings with community leaders and relevant groups (Child Protection Committees and Village Savings & Loans Groups etc.)

**Person specification**

The evaluation team should have the following skills:

1. Demonstrated understanding and experience with USAID and PEPFAR programs.
2. Social development/public health/social work/community development experience and expertise in two or more of the following areas:
  - Programs serving vulnerable and disadvantage\*! children and families
  - Programs focused on community development work
  - HIV care and support, care and support for orphans and vulnerable children
3. Organizational development and institutional capacity building
4. Working with government agencies in policy development, budgeting, implementation.
5. Experience in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of international health programs in Africa, experience in Nigeria is a plus.

**The Evaluation Team should have at minimum:**

- An advanced degree in social sciences: social work, social development,
- Five to eight years' experience working on social development/community development, children and family issues, HIV/AIDS, and OVC issues.

- Experience in direct engagement with children; facilitating children's activities, discussing and listening to children directly, and so on.
- Substantial experience in conducting and leading project evaluations, quantitative and qualitative research, especially in evaluating/reviewing community-based programs.
- Excellent English language skills, both written and verbal and excellent report writing and documentation skills; ability to produce quality and well-written evaluation reports.
- Understanding of Hausa language is compulsory and experience working in Northern Nigeria, as the research and interviews will be conducted with primarily Hausa speaking informants.
- The proposed team leader is expected to provide a sample of other reports s/he has written for consideration by Save the Children prior to final selection/consultancy agreement.

### **Child Protection**

The evaluation team will receive a briefing and orientation on Save the Children's Child Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct, and overall guidelines for ensuring a safe environment in interviewing and engaging children.

### **Application Process**

The consulting team should submit Expression of Interest which details the methodology and timetable proposed for the study in English to:

[Nigeria.Tender@savethechildren.org](mailto:Nigeria.Tender@savethechildren.org)

**Closing date: on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014.**